

CONNECTICUT

Specific requirement to report sexual assault? No.

Requirement to report non-accidental or intentional injuries? No.

Requirement to report injuries caused by criminal conduct? No.

Additional statutes that may impact competent adult victims of sexual assault? There is a requirement to report wounds caused by firearms.

STATUTES ADDRESSING PAYMENT FOR EXAMINATIONS

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-112a. Commission on the Standardization of the Collection of Evidence in Sexual Assault Investigations. Protocol. Sexual assault evidence collection kit. Preservation of evidence. Costs. Training and sexual assault examiner programs.

(a) There is created a Commission on the Standardization of the Collection of Evidence in Sexual Assault Investigations composed of fourteen members as follows: The Chief State's Attorney or a designee; the executive director of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women or a designee; the Commissioner of Children and Families or a designee; one member from the Division of State Police and one member from the Division of Scientific Services appointed by the Commissioner of Public Safety; one member from Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc. appointed by its board of directors; one member from the Connecticut Hospital Association appointed by the president of the association; one emergency physician appointed by the president of the Connecticut College of Emergency Physicians; one obstetrician-gynecologist and one pediatrician appointed by the president of the Connecticut State Medical Society; one nurse appointed by the president of the Connecticut Nurses' Association; one emergency nurse appointed by the president of the Emergency Nurses' Association of Connecticut; and one police chief appointed by the president of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association. The Chief State's Attorney or a designee shall be chairman of the commission. The commission shall be within the Division of Criminal Justice for administrative purposes only.

(b) (1) For the purposes of this section, "protocol" means the state of Connecticut Technical Guidelines for Health Care Response to Victims of Sexual Assault, including the Interim Sexual Assault Toxicology Screen Protocol, as revised from time to time and as incorporated in regulations adopted in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection, pertaining to the collection of evidence in any sexual assault investigation.

(2) The commission shall recommend the protocol to the Chief State's Attorney for adoption as regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. The commission shall annually review the protocol and may annually recommend changes to the protocol for adoption as regulations.

(c) The commission shall design a sexual assault evidence collection kit and may annually recommend changes in the kit to the Chief State's Attorney. Each kit shall include instructions on the proper use of the kit, standardized reporting forms, standardized tests which shall be performed if the victim so consents and standardized receptacles for the collection and preservation of evidence. The commission shall provide the kits to all health care facilities in the state at which evidence collection examinations are performed at no cost to such health care facilities.

(d) Each health care facility in the state which provides for the collection of sexual assault evidence shall follow the protocol as described in subsection (b) of this section and, with the consent of the victim, shall collect sexual assault evidence. The health care facility shall contact a police department which shall transfer evidence collected pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, in a manner that maintains the integrity of the evidence, to the Division of Scientific Services within the Department of Public Safety or the Federal Bureau of Investigation laboratory. The agency that receives such evidence shall hold that evidence for sixty days after such collection, except that, if the victim reports the sexual assault to the police, the evidence shall be analyzed upon request of the police department that transferred the evidence to such agency and held by the agency or police department until the conclusion of any criminal proceedings.

(e) (1) No costs incurred by a health care facility for the examination of a victim of sexual assault, when such examination is performed for the purpose of gathering evidence as prescribed in the protocol, including the costs of testing for pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases and the costs of prophylactic treatment as provided in the protocol, shall be charged directly or indirectly to such victim. Any such costs shall be charged to the Division of Criminal Justice.

(2) No costs incurred by a health care facility for any toxicology screening of a victim of sexual assault, when such screening is performed as prescribed in the protocol, shall be charged directly or indirectly to such victim. Any such costs shall be charged to the Division of Scientific Services within the Department of Public Safety.

(f) The commission shall advise the Chief State's Attorney on the establishment of a mandatory training program for health care facility staff regarding the implementation of the regulations, the use of the evidence collection kit and procedures for handling evidence.

(g) The commission shall advise the Chief State's Attorney not later than July 1, 1997, on the development of a sexual assault examiner program and annually thereafter on the implementation and effectiveness of such program.

HISTORY: (P.A. 88-210, S. 1, 3; P.A. 92-151, S. 1, 2; P.A. 93-91, S. 1, 2; 93-340, S. 6, 19; 93-381, S. 9, 39; P.A. 95-257, S. 12, 21, 58; P.A. 97-257, S. 2, 13; P.A. 98-5; 98-24; P.A. 99-218, S. 7, 16; June 30 Sp. Sess. P.A. 03-6, S. 162, 163.)

REPORTING STATUTES WHICH MAY IMPACT RAPE VICTIMS

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-490f. Requirements for reports of treatment of wounds from firearms.

Each hospital, outpatient surgical facility and outpatient clinic shall report or cause a report to be made to the local police department or the state police of each person treated for a bullet wound, gunshot wound or any injury arising from the discharge of a firearm. Such report shall be made as soon as practicable after the treatment is rendered and shall contain the name and address of the injured person, if known, the nature and extent of the injury and the circumstances under which the treatment was rendered.